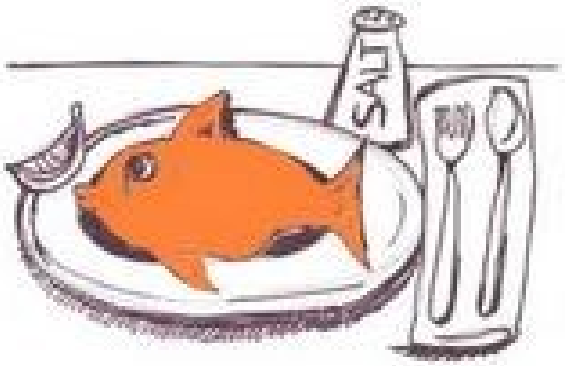
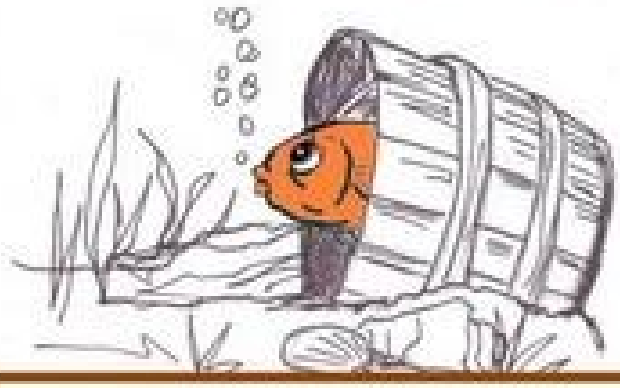


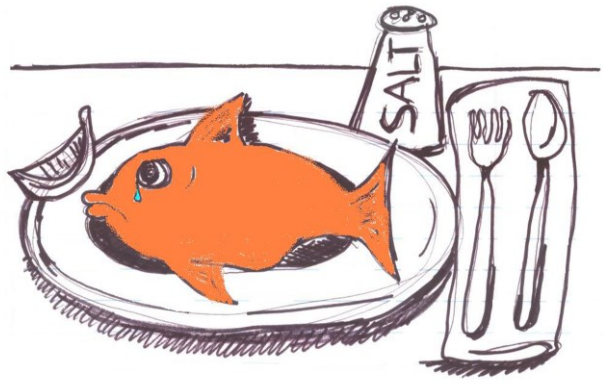


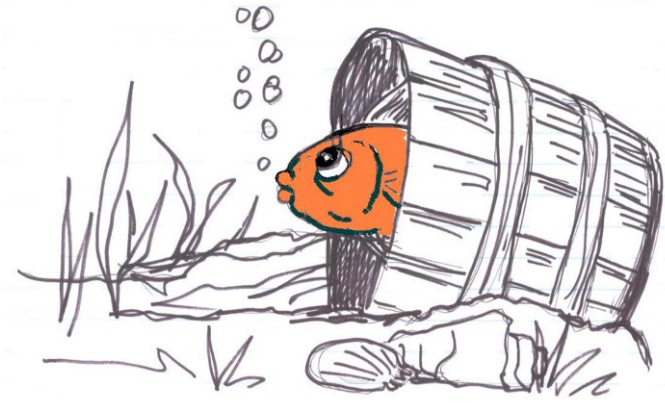
El Pez Que No Quiso Ser Pescado

A Story About a Fish and Understanding Spanish

Carol Evaul

El Pez Que No Quiso Ser Pescado





WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY

CAROL EVAUL

Había una vez
un pez,

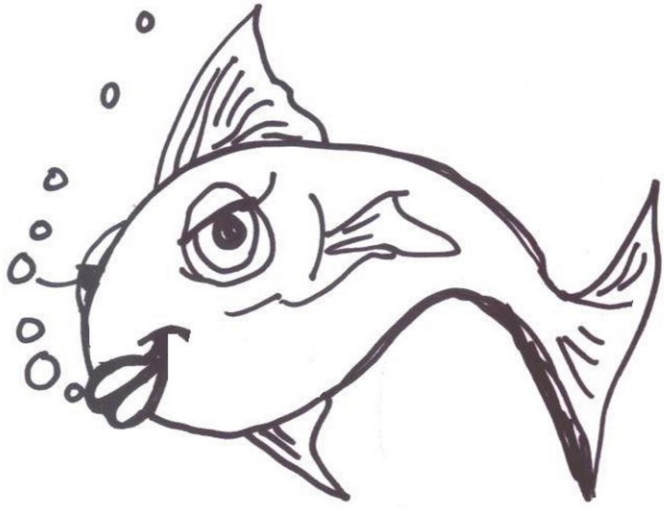
Haber - a helping verb, it means "There is or There are." Había means "there was." Other common forms of this verb are "Hay" which means "there is" or "there are."

Un pez muy picaro y atrevido.

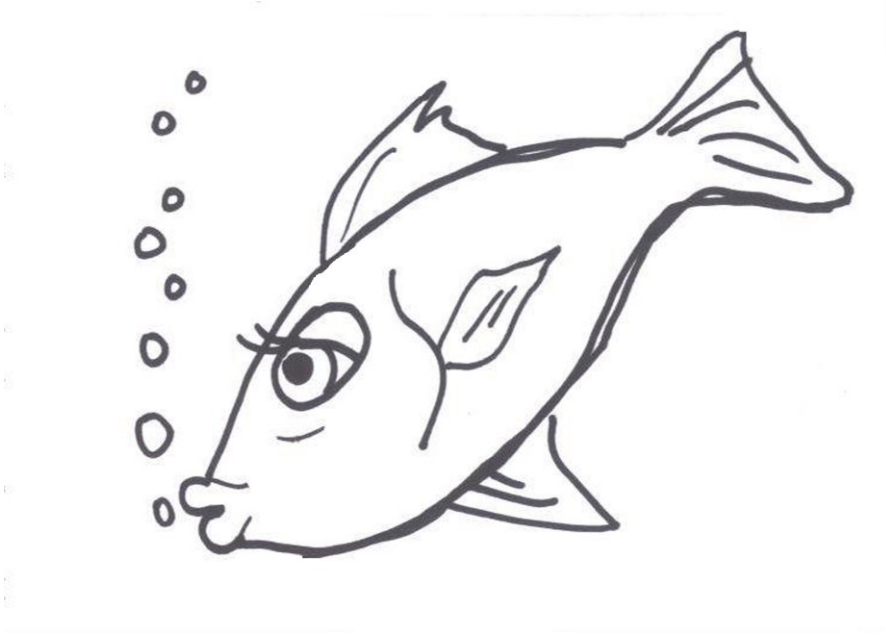
Muy - is a superlative that goes before an adjective that describes a noun. It means very, but also can mean too or quite.

Picaro - clever.

Atrevido - means bold, daring or mischievous.

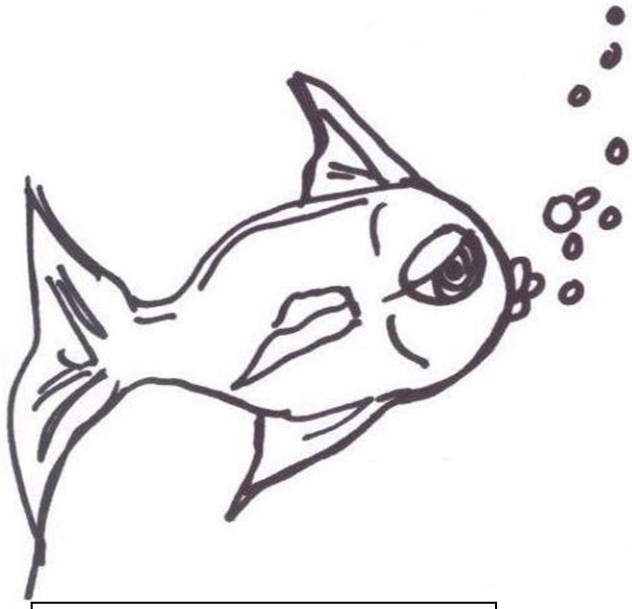


Que nadaba en el agua azul sin cesar.



Nadar - To swim.
Nadaba - Was swimming.
Aqua azul - In Spanish the adjective goes after the noun, literally, "water blue." This is called syntax, and it is different than English.

Jugando y nadando en el mar.

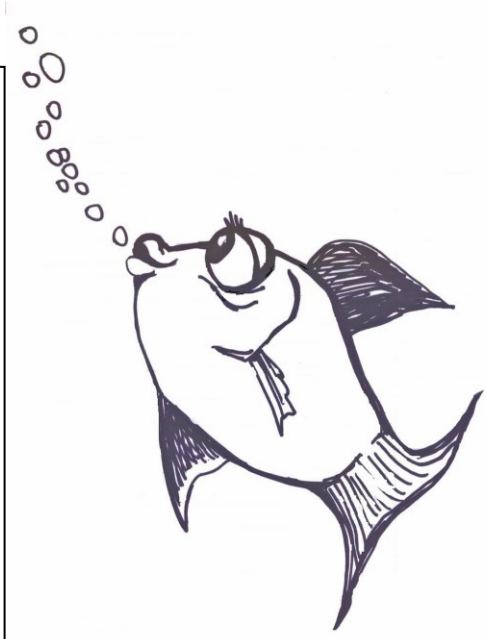


Jugando - Playing.
Nadando - Swimming.
Pay attention to the endings of these verbs, when you see the "ando" on the end imagine that it replaces the "ing" as in English words.

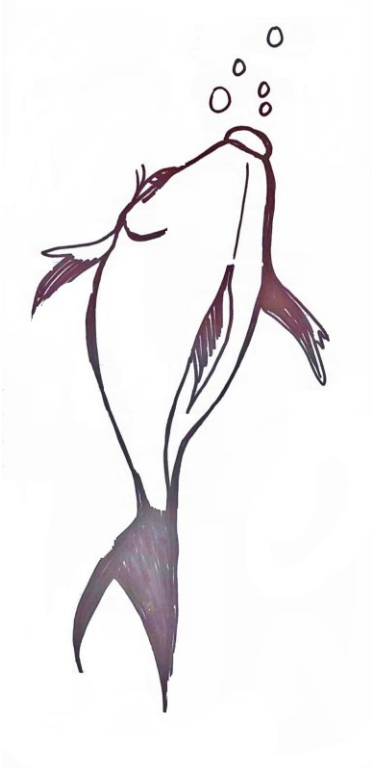
Era un pez astuto, un pez hermoso.

Dijo el pez, "No quiero ser pescado...

Decir-to say. Dijo is the past tense meaning "He said." In Spanish you do not have to write Él (He) in front of the verb because it is already within the form "dijo" and therefore, the he is understood.
Querer-To want. No quiero is I do not want.
Remember we do not have to write "Yo No quiero", because it is understood. However you *can* use the pronouns and it is not wrong, if it helps you...add the pronouns!
Ser-to be. (Infinitive/verb.)



Por eso, voy a nadar rápido, y yo voy a escapar."



Por eso-An expression that means "for that reason."
Notice that I have written "Voy a nadar" meaning "I am going to swim, " and "*Yo* voy a escapar" meaning I am going to escape.
I did this on purpose so that you see that you can write "Voy" and "Yo voy" and *both* are correct. Please get used to seeing both forms. Use what you feel most comfortable with.
"Voy a + an infinitive" is a quick way to use the future tense when you are learning.

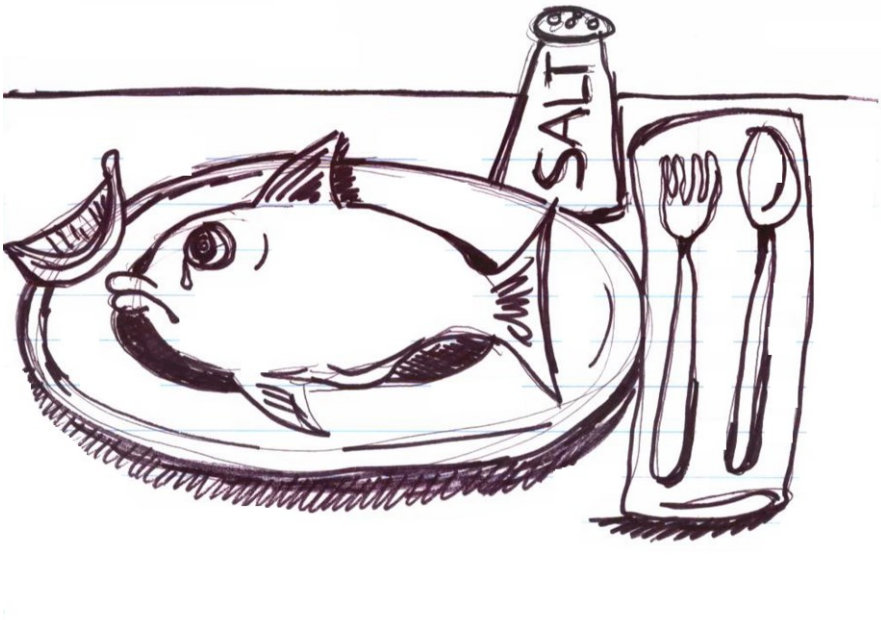
Había un pescador viejo en un barco de madera.

Here you see the phrase "pescador viejo." Why is it not viejo pescador? It is called poetic

Un-Is a singular indefinite article. It is part of grammar. It goes before a noun. In Spanish it must agree with the gender form of masculine or feminine. Example: un, una
There is the exception to the form when it is describing only one and masculine it is always "un" because "uno" is the number one.
So we see "un barco," but if it were feminine, for example, casa, comida, and taza...it would be: una casa, una comida and una taza.
Beware of the exceptions: una mano, un mapa, and una foto.

El pescador dijo,
"Quiero tener un filete
de pescado
empanizado,
O un pescado frito,
con sal, pimienta
y limón."

Con-Is a preposition, meaning "with."
De is a preposition that can mean "of, or with" and is hard to translate because the meaning is often understood from the context of the sentence.
Examples:
Soy de Illinois. (I am from Illinois.)
Es hecho de chocolate. (It is made from/of chocolate.)



Now do you know the difference between pez and pescado?

"O puede ser a la plancha o al horno o como sea,

Con una salsa de tomate o en paella,

The word "al" comes from a el, it is like a contraction in that the words combine to be "al."
Part of the reason is because you have two vowels coming together in *a + el*, sort of like in English when we add an "n" to pronoun these words: An apple, An elephant, An artist.
It just sounds better!
Look up paella, what is in it?
Where does paella originate?

Con papas fritas al lado,

O en escabeche o con chiles."

Escabeche-de pescado is made by marinading the fish in lemon juice or vinegar. There are many forms of preparing this fish, all fantastic. Perú is famous for its escabeche. Chiles-Cooking with chili peppers bring out the flavor and spice to Latin recipes. From jalepeños, poblanos to cayenne, these peppers are a vital part of food preparation.

Note: Spelling rule for making a word ending in z plural. The word pez becomes peces.

El pescador estaba pescando peces,

Con ganas y esperanza.

No es lógico decir pescar peces.

Porque cuando está fuera del agua el pez se convierte en pescado.

Porque ya el pescado es para comer.

Hay que pescar peces,

El pescado serviría
para una cena rica o
para vender en el
mercado.

O para servir en un
restaurante con un
poco de salsa picante.

Pero un pez siempre
es un pez,

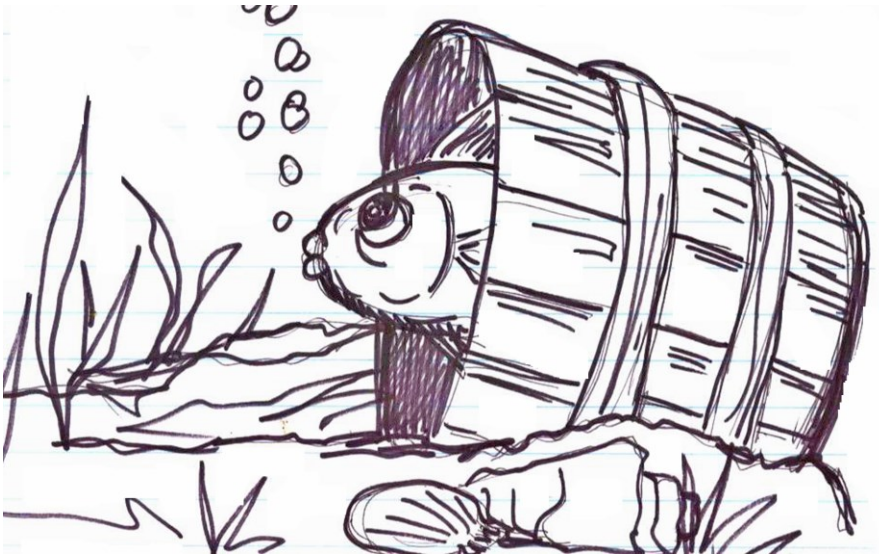
Le llamamos pez, sencillamente.

Cuando está con vida es un pez.

Como comida, es pescado.

Solo recuerda que un pez después de pescarlo, es pescado.

Es importante saber su nombre y hacerlo muy claro.



Aunque en este caso es un poco raro.

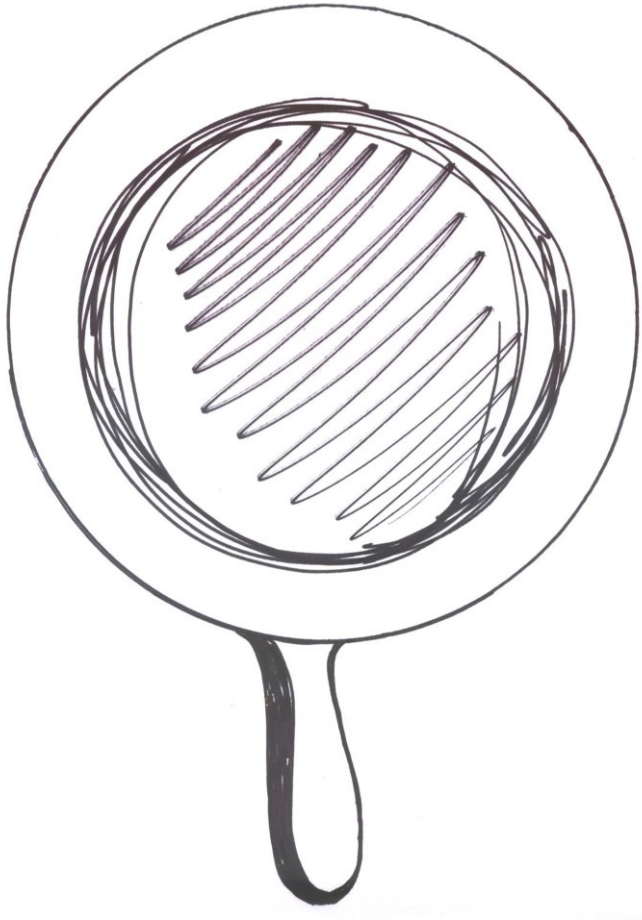
Cuando se encuentra al pez en el mar es importante saber,

Note: se means that it is a part of a reflexive verb.

Example: se encuentra

Que hay un nombre para los peces con vida...

Y otro nombre para los pescados que son comida.



VOCABULARIO:

agua

atrevido

astuto

aunque

azul

barco

caso

cena

cesar

chiles

claro

comer

comida

como

convierte

cuando

decir

dijo

encuentre

escabeche
esperanza
escapar
eso
frito
fritas
ganas
hay
hermoso
horno
importante
llamamos
limón
mar
mercado
muy
nombre
nadar
otro
paella

papas fritas
peces
pescado
pescador
pez
picante
picaro
pimienta
plancha
poco
por
porque
que
quiso
rápido
raro
restaurante
rica
saber
salsa

sencillamente
ser
servir
sin
solo
tratar
tomate
vende
vez
vida
viejo
voy
ya
yo

TRANSLATION OF THE STORY:

El pez* que no quiso ser pescado*

The fish that didn't want to be a fish (to be eaten or a dead fish.)

Había una vez un pez,

Once upon a time there was a fish,

Un pez muy picaro y atrevido

A very lively fish and daring fish

**In Spanish, there is a difference between pez and pescado. Pez is the fish that swims in the sea (that is alive,) and pescado is a fish that you eat, buy at the market, cook or serve (after it has been caught.)*

Que nadaba en el agua azul sin cesar.

That swam in the blue water without ceasing.

Jugando y nadando en el mar.

He was playing and swimming in the sea.

Era un pez astuto, un pez hermoso.

He was a smart fish, a beautiful fish.

Dijo el pez, "No quiero ser pescado...

The fish said, I don't want to be a (dead) fish...

Por eso, voy a nadar rápido, y yo voy a escapar."

For that, I am going to swim fast, and I am going to escape."

Había un viejo pescador en un barco de madera.

There was an old fisherman in a wooden boat.

El pescador dijo, "Quiero tener un filete de pescado empanizado,

The fisherman said, I want to have a breaded fish fillet,

O un pescado frito, con sal, pimienta
y limón."

Or a fried fish, with salt and pepper and lemon.

"O puede ser a la plancha o al horno
o como sea,

It could be cooked on the grill or in the oven however,

Con una salsa de tomate o en paella,

With a tomato sauce or in paella,

Con papas fritas al lado,

With French fries on the side,

O en escabeche o con chiles."

Or seared or with chilies.

El pescador estaba pescando peces,

The fisherman was fishing for fish,

Con ganas y esperanza.

With motivation and hope.

No es lógico decir pescar peces.

It is not logical to say fish for fish.

Porque cuando está fuera del agua

Because when it is out of the water

El pez se convierte en pescado.

The fish(alive) changes into fish(dead).

Porque ya el pescado es para comer.

Because now it is fish to eat.

Hay que pescar a los peces,

One must fish the fish,

El pescado serviría para una cena rica

The fish would be a delicious supper

o para vender en el mercado.

or to sell in the market.

O para servir en un restaurante con

Or serve in a restaurant with

un poco de salsa picante.

a little hot sauce.

Pero un pez siempre es un pez,

But a fish is always a fish,

Le llamamos pez, sencillamente.

We simply call it fish.

Cuando está con vida,

When it is alive,

Es un pez.

It is a fish.

Si le tratamos como comida,

If we treat it like food,

Es pescado.

It is fish.

Solo recuerda que un pez

Only remember that a fish

Después de pescarlo, es pescado.

After it has been caught, is fish.

Es importante saber su nombre y

It is important to know its name and

Hacerlo muy claro.

Make it very clear.

Aunque en este caso es un poco

Although in this case it is a little

Raro. Cuando se encuentra al pez en el mar

Rare. When one finds a fish in the sea

Es importante saber,

It is important to know,

Que hay un nombre para peces

That there is one name for fish

Con vida...

That are alive.

Y otro nombre para los pescados

And another name for the fish

Que son comida.

That are food.

Preguntas:

1. ¿Cuál es la diferencia de uso entre las palabras pez y pescado**?**

2. En la historia, el pez no quiere ser _____.

3. El pescador tiene un _____ de madera.

4. El pez nada en el _____.

5. El pez quiere:

    a. fritar

    b. decir

    c. llamar

    d. escapar

6. El pescado es rico con _____ y _____.

7. El pez dijo, Voy a nadar _____.

8. El pescado es para _____.

9. El pez era _____ y _____.

10. Un _____ es comida.

MATCHING WORDS:

1. pescador	a. to sell
2. mar	b. market
3. papas fritas	c. hope
4. mercado	d. name
5. hermoso	e. sea
6. tomate	f. French fries
7. salsa	g. fisherman
8. esperanza	h. beautiful
9. vender	i. sauce
10. nombre	j. tomato

ANSWER KEY: VOCABULARIO

agua - water
atrevido - bold, daring
astuto - smart, clever, astute
aunque - although
azul - blue
barco - boat
caso - case
cena- supper
cesar - to cease
chiles-chilies
claro - clear
comer - to eat
comida - food
como - as, how
convierte -convert
cuando - when
decir - to say
dijo - (he/she) said

encuentra - find
escabeche - seared, pouched
esperanza - hope
escapar - to escape
eso - that
frito - fried
fritas - fried
ganas - desire, motivation
hay - there is/there are
hermoso - beautiful
horno - oven
importante - important
llamamos - we call
limón - lemon
mar - sea
mercado - market
muy - very
nombre - name
nadar - to swim
otro - other

paella - a rice dish made with fish
papas fritas - French fries
peces - fish (plural)
pescado - fish (singluar)
pescador- fisherman
pez - fish
picante - hot spicy
picaro - clever
pimienta - pepper
plancha - grill
poco -little
por - by, for
porque - because
que - that
quiso - he/she wanted
rápido - fast
raro - rare
restaurante -restaurant
rica-rich, delicious
saber - to know

salsa- sauce
sencillamente- simply
ser - to be
servir - to serve
sin - without
solo - only
tratar - to treat
tomate - tomato
vende - sell
vez - once
vida -life
viejo - old
voy - I am going
ya - now
yo - (pronoun) I

Preguntas with answers

1. ¿Cuál es la diferencia de uso entre las palabras pez y pescado? *Pescado is a dead fish and Pez is a live fish*.

2. En la historia, el pez no quiere ser __*pescado*__.

3. El pescador tiene un _*barco*_ de madera.

4. El pez nada en el _*mar*__.

5. El pez quiere:

    a. fritar

    b. decir

    c. llamar

    d. escapar

6. El pescado es rico con _*sal*_ y _*limón*_.
7. El pez dijo, Voy a nadar _*rápido*_.
8. El pescado es para _*comer .*_
9. El pez era _*hermoso*_ y _*astuto .*_
10. Un _*pescado*_ es comida.

MATCHING WORDS:

1. pescador	(g)	a. to sell
2. mar	(e)	b. market
3. papas	(f)	c. hope
4. mercado	(b)	d. name
5. hermoso	(h)	e. sea
6. tomate	(j)	f. potatoes
7. salsa	(i)	g. fisherman
8. esperanza	(c)	h. beautiful
9. vender	(a)	i. sauce
10. nombre	(b)	j. tomato

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES AND IDEAS:

1. Look up recipes for fish (in Spanish.)

2. Make a list of chili peppers used in Spanish recipes. Make a poster showing the pictures of peppers (drawn or printed from the internet.)

3. Make flash cards of the vocabulary words and practice them.

4. Make flash cards of *phrases* found within the story, such as:
"es importante saber" (it is important to know,) "quiero tener un filete de pescado" (I want to have a fish fillet,) and "pescado es para comer" (fish is to eat.) In class, help students to identify phrases.

5. Play a game called "Mercado" or Market. You need a shopping bag, a sombrero and 3X5 flash cards.

This is similar to *musical chairs*. Give each person in the group a name of a vegetable, fruit or market item on a 3X5 card. The "shopper" walks inside the circle of chairs.

As in musical chairs there is one less chair available than for the total number of players. This game has two parts: playing the game and the punishment part. The explanation is as follows.

Playing games helps them to practice words in a fun way. The interaction between students is a social activity that allows them to build relationships.

"El Juego del Mercado"*

(This is a game that was played in Bolivia as a social game at camps, schools and churches just for fun.)

You start the game by selecting a "shopper" who wears the hat and hold the shopping bag. This game has two parts. One part is the activity of shopping, but also catching a person more than once results in a *castigo* or fine.

The second part if the when the persons who were "fined" have to gain back their objects by singing, or doing something for fun.

The rest of the group is seated in chairs in a circle. Each has been given a visible 3X5 card with the name of a vegetable, fruit or market item written in Spanish on it.

The game begins by a shopper walking around in a circle saying, "Me fui al mercado para comprar...." *I went to the market to buy....* (Names the item....) (As an item is named that person follows the shopper *as if to be in the bag!*) This continues until the person has shopped enough and then he yells: ¡Y se rompió la bolsa!* *And the bag broke!* *Then all who are standing must run for a seat!

If a person gets caught more than once without a seat there is a punishment (or castigo.)

The castigo results in taking a item from that person (a watch, keys, cell phone, etc.) of which, at the end, they will earn it back.

After a certain amount of time, the game part ends and the "Castigo" part begins.

At this time, the items are put on a desk and the teacher directs this segment by saying:

"¿De quién es?" (Whose is this?) Takes an item out of the box and holds it up.
"¿Qué es esto?" What is this?
(They respond by naming the item in Spanish.)
¿Qué castigo le daremos? - *What punishment should we give?*
¿Se *quema o no se quema? - *Punish him or don't punish him?*

Here it is hard to translate literally because *quemar means to burn, but we are using it as a slang word to mean "get him."

(Response: Sí le quemamos (yes we punish him/her.)
Or (No le quemamos,) no we don't punish him/her.)
Prenda-fine or object (objeto)
Types of objects (Tipos de objetos)
anillo - ring
boleto de la lotería - lottery ticket
camiseta -sweatshirt
chaqueta - jacket
lápiz - pencil
llaves - keys
pulsera - bracelet
suéter - sweater
zapato - shoe
Listas de Castigos: "Se quema"
examples/ejemplos
Hay que bailar, inventar una poema, cantar o actuar. (You have to dance, make a poem, sing or act.) The group

can invent new "castigos" as they go along.
El Guzano - the worm
El Pato Rengo - the lame duck
La abeja- the bee
La liquadora - the blender
Macarena (dance)
Pollo loco - chicken dance
Pescado muerto - dead fish
Poema: Los pollitos dicen, "Pío, pío, pío, cuando tienen hambre y cuando tienen frío. (Baby chicks say "peep, peep, peep" when they are hungry and when they are cold.)
Sing something in Spanish", (Feliz Navidad, Feliz Navidad, próspero año y felicidad, etc.) They can use their notes.
"No se quema" examples/ejemplos
Give three people a hug

High five to everyone
Shake three hands with three people
Take a bow in the center
Say gracias to everyone in the circle, (over and over) and shake their hand.

My class continued to invent new kinds of castigos, they would just say "Pollo loco" and automatically be able to complete the castigo. Also they looked up Spanish "merengue" music and we would play it from the internet for the dances.

Below is a partial list of names used in the Mercado game. This list is not complete. More items could be added, but it is a good start!

Note: Sometimes the names of words may be different, like peanut, is maní in South America, but it is cacahuete in Mexico. Pay attention to regional differences and influences.

Cosas en el mercado:(Things in the market:)

Make flash cards of these. Look up the articles that go with these nouns as a homework assignment.

salt	sal
pepper	pimienta
sugar	azucar
aceite	oil
vinegar	vinagre
basil	albahaca
anise	anis
tea	té
mayonnaise	mayonesa
butter	mantequilla
cinnamon	canela
eggs	huevos
olive	aceituna
flour	harina
garlic	ajo

sage	salvia
sesame	sésamo
thyme	tomillo
coriander	cilantro
clove	clavo de olor
cumin	comino
bay leaves	hojas de laurel
ginger	jengibre
marjoram	mejorana
mustard	mostaza
nutmeg	nuez moscada
oregano	orégano
parsley	perejil
paprika	pimentón dulce
vanilla	vainilla
spices	condimentos
milk	leche
bread	pan
honey	miel
cookies	galletas

matches	fósforos
coffee	café
rice	arroz
beans	frijoles
cheese	queso
meat	carne
clothes	ropa
fabric	tela
candles	velas
shoes	zapatos

Fruits - Frutas

Apricot	Damasco
Blueberry	Arándano
Banana	Banana
Cherry	Cereza
Cherimoya	Chirimoya
Plum	Ciruela
Prune	Ciruela seca
Coconut	Coco
Dates	Dátiles

Peach	Durazno
Raspberry	Frambuesa
Pomegranate	Granada
Passion Fruit	Maracuyá
Guava	Guayaba
Figs	Higos
Lime	Lima
Lemon	Limón
Mamey	Mamey
Mandarin	Mandarina
Mango	Mango
Apple	Manzana
Cantaloupe	Melón
Blackberry	Mora
Orange	Naranja
Papaya	Papaya
Raisins	Pasas Secas
Pear	Pera
Pineapple	Piña
Plantain	Plátano

Rhubarb	Ruibarbo
Watermelon	Sandia
Tamarind	Tamarindo
Grapefruit	Toronja

Vegetables - Veduras

Avocado	Aguacate
Garlic	Ajo
Celery	Apio
Rice	Arroz
Peas	Arvejas
Egg plant	Berenjena
Beet	Betabel
Broccoli	Brócoli
Peanut	Maní
Pumpkin	Calabaza
Sweet Potato	Camote
Onion	Cebolla
Green onions	Cebollitas
Mushrooms	Champiñones
Green pepper	Pimiento verde

Parsnips	Chirivias
Papas	Potatoes
Kale	Col verde
Brussel sprouts	Coles de Bruselas
Cauliflower	Coliflor
Green beans	Vainitas
Spinach	Espinaca
Chickpeas	Garbanzos
Lettuce	Lechuga
Lentils	Lentejas
Corn	Maíz
Potatos	Papas
Pickles	Pepinillos
Cucumber	Pepino
Radish	Rábano
Cabbage	Repollo
Tomato	Tomate
Cassava	Yuca
Carrot	Zanahoria

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Carol Evaul spent almost 20 years as a missionary in Bolivia, South America. She graduated from the Universidad Evangélica Boliviana with a degree in Psychology. Returning to the States after 9/11, she began to teach Spanish as an Adjunct Instructor for two local community colleges in Illinois. She received a Masters of Arts in Educational Leadership from the University of Illinois, Springfield. She continued to teach part-time while getting her Masters of Arts in Professional Counseling from McKendree University.. This book is a result of a discussion that took place in a class when someone asked the question, "What is the difference between pez and pescado?" She wrote this story in one of her Spanish classes to help her Spanish students understand basic concepts that many textbooks overlook. She has included some classroom activities as well. She still enjoys teaching and volunteer activities. She has taught ESL. Currently she teaches psychology classes. Learning Spanish is easy when you do not obsess about the grammar. It is natural and must be taken slow. However, you have to find creative ways to teach and it helps to play games and interact in a dynamic way. Carol believes that faith is an essential element to learning because you have to believe that you can learn a new task, learning is a spiritual experience, something few recognize or embrace. Learning is changing yourself through a transformation of an encounter and exchange of new information by a teacher. This information is integrated and applied in a useful way to the learner. The teacher is what makes all of the difference in how a student accommodates the new learning. The greatest teacher in the world was Jesus. His model of patience and love for the learner is matchless.